MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The present officer is for the whole State.

MR. K. A. MATHEW (*Tiruvalla*): May I know who this officer is?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: He is Mr. Kesavan Nair.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether a single officer will be able to cope with the Rural Development work in the whole State?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: It is only in the initial stage. The question whether some more have to be appointed will be considered when the occasion arises.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know what is the nature of his previous experience in the line?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: He was in the Co-operative Department; afterwards he was Inspector of Industries in the Industries Department and so he had come into contact with the various activities of the Co-operative and Industries Departments. The activities with which he will be in charge in future will be those which have a great deal to do with industries and co-operation.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know whether he has got any experience in British India—the Wardha Scheme and the Village Industries Association or any other centre?

PRESIDENT: What are the industries that obtain in Wardha?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Soap making, paper making, oil pressing, spinning etc., and other modern methods.

PRESIDENT: What are the modern methods?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: I have seen them. Cottage Industries have been developed to a very great extent.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether this officer will have anything to do with Village Panchayats?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: It is yet to be decided.

Labourers.

344. ❋ MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the classes of labourers who fall within the scope of the Factories Act?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Both skilled and unskilled workers who come under the definition of 'worker' under Section 2 (*h*) of the Travancore Factories Act VIII of 1114.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: ഫാക്ററിയിൽ ജോലിക്കാക്ക് ക്ലിപ്പ് പ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള കുറഞ്ഞ സമയം ഇപ്പോൾ എത്രയാണെന്നു പറയാൻ മയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: That does not arise out of this question, but still I shall say that action is being taken in accordance with the provision recently made by the Government of India that the number of hours should be reduced to 48.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: അങ്ങനെ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നതിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്ത ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു വിഭാഗം ഈ ഫാക്ററിന്റെ പരിധിയിൽ വരുമോ?

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MR. C. KUMARA DAS: In all factories that come under the Act, there is a definite condition in regard to the hours of labour.

Quota of Kerosene oil for Vaikom.

345. * MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the quota of kerosene oil for Vaikom for the months of Meenom, Medom and Edavom 1121 and the balance of stock on 31-10-1121; and the date of distribution of kerosene oil as per ration cards in the Vaikom taluk in the month of Mithunam 1121?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR (*Secretary to Government*): A * statement furnishing the information is placed on the table.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know whether a full ration was allowed to card-holders in Vaikom in the month of Edavom?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: I claim notice.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know whether he will make enquiries as to whether any reduction was made in the issue as per ration cards?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: I will do so.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know whether the Government are aware that considerable inconvenience has been caused by the delay in the issue of kerosene in the month of Mithunam in Vaikom?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: It was reported that there was some delay in the month of Mithunam, because ration cards had to be renewed by the end of Edavom and fresh cards had to be issued from Mithunam. Though there was some delay on this account, fresh ration cards were distributed from 19-11-1121.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR: May I know whether arrangements will be made to avoid such delays in future?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Certainly.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: May I know whether the allotments are made monthly or quarterly?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Monthly.

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANA AIYAR (*Trivandrum City*): May I know from the honourable member whether instructions have been given to the Commissioner to extend the time in view to the fact that several persons were not able to send their applications in time due to the lateness of the publication?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Instructions have been given.

Handlooms.

346. * MR. E. K. MADHAVAN (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of handlooms working in the State;

(*b*) the number of handlooms in Parur and Kunnatnad taluks respectively; and

(*c*) the quantity of yarn supplied per loom per month?

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*Vide Appendix I.

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